



June 2020 Church Update

ADVOCACY STANCE AND ACTIONS

Our Northern Waters District Peace with Justice Ministry Team is praising God for the statewide advocacy training recently received from Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). The audio recording of the training is available. Contact Randie Clawson, randie.clawson@gmail.com for a copy.

The Northern Waters Peace with Justice Ministry Team (NWD PWJMT)

We continue our journey of: Education, Action and Advocacy. We are stepping, not away from charity, but also to advocacy. We are convinced that our advocacy to change systems and institutions is the justice path to which we are called for long term changes.

We invite all people in our United Methodist Churches and in their communities to join with others on the topics the Holy Spirit has brought to your awareness as needing a change.

The PWJMT is maintaining a list of people willing to be involved to create change together. This list will be kept including the topics of interest. We are connecting and are forming advocacy action groups around topics of interest.

These groups will meet virtually, plan the action desired and work together to amplify their voices. They will decide how best to handle their desired actions. The Zoom platform to use will be available to us through the Michigan Conference Board of Justice. The Friends Committee on National Legislation has suggested helps in setting set up virtual advocacy meetings with national legislators.

We hope to be able to connect each person at each church who wants to promote justice with others interested in the same topic. This is an exciting process of being connected with likeminded people experiencing the Holy Spirit's energy and wisdom doing God's work together. To be included, please send your contact information and your topic(s) of interest to Randie Clawson, randie.clawson@gmail.com.

We are also maintaining a list of groups who are actively promoting justice in the Northern Waters District. If you or your church are involved in advocacy with a group doing charity or advocacy, we would like to have their contact information and the topics of your ministry with them.

PWJMT'S VIRTUAL BOOK STUDY

Peace & Justice July Book Study

Not quite ready to jump in with both feet AND/OR want some additional tools in your tool belt? Join our virtual book study based on [The Fig Tree Revolution-Unleashing Local Churches into the Mission of Justice](#) by Bill Mefford, a well-known voice encouraging all people of faith in building grassroots movements on issues of immigration, mass incarceration, religious freedom and gun violence.

We will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 @ 7 p.m. covering Chapters 1-4: Reflect and again on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 @ 7 p.m. covering Chapters 5-8: Action.

Scholarships may be available to cover half the cost of the book.

*Everyone will sit under their own vine and under their own fig tree,
and no one will make them afraid, for the Lord Almighty has spoken.*

Micah 4:4

Pam Moyer, Book Study Leader, Contact: pamelapmoyer@gmail.com, Petoskey UMC

JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS (JFON) UPDATE

We met – and exceeded – our \$50,000 matching grant!

Thank you, JFON generous donors! We raised \$64,753. You've helped us weather the Covid-19 crisis, so our staff can continue to serve our clients (safely from home).

As you might imagine, providing legal services to immigrants during a Stay at Home order requires persistence and a bit of innovation. JFON Michigan's legal staff have worked their way around new challenges to make sure our clients' needs are met.

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